

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Joe F. Goicoechea

Serial No.: 10/657,877

Filed: September 9, 2003

Docket No.: 200207903-1

Title: PURGING PRINT JOBS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 16, 20, 24, 26, 31, 32, 35, 36, 40, 43, 44, and 45 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for detecting a triggering event, determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following the detected triggering event and purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired, wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer and wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed ~~following as measured from~~ the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job and wherein purging the print job from the memory includes purging the print job if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

- detecting a triggering event;
- following the detected triggering event, determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive ~~following a detected triggering event~~; and
- if the print job has been designated time sensitive, obtaining expiration data for the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and purging the print job from the memory if the print job has expired;
- wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer; ~~[[and]]~~
- wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data; and
- wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

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6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 5, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory following the malfunction; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory.

8. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 5, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

the instructions for obtaining expiration data include instructions for obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue following the malfunction; and

the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document;

translating the instructions into a print job;

presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and

if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job, the expiration data indicating a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the malfunction exceeds the duration included in the expiration data.

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10. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 9, wherein the memory is a printer memory and the duration is a first duration and wherein the instructions for presenting include instructions for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue prior to the print job being delivered from the queue to the printer memory.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having instructions to be executed on a computer for:

identifying a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer;

upon identifying the malfunction, determining if the print job has expired; and

if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory,

wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the ~~elapsed time~~ malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data.

12. (Original) The medium of claim 11 having further instructions for determining if the print job has been designated as a time sensitive, and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job.

13. (Original) The medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a queue and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the queue.

14. (Original) The medium of claim 11 wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein the instructions for purging include instructions for purging the print job from the printer memory.

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15. (Original) The medium of Claim 11 having further instructions for notifying a user if the print job has been purged.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for purging a print job, comprising, detecting a triggering event, determining if a print job designated as time sensitive has expired following the triggering event and purging the print job from a memory upon determining the print job has expired, wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, and wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed ~~following as~~ measured from the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job, and wherein purging the print job from the memory includes purging the print job if the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.

17-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method for purging a print job, comprising:
detecting a triggering event;
determining if a print job stored in a memory has been designated time sensitive;
if the print job has been designated time sensitive and a detected triggering event has occurred, obtaining expiration data included with the print job, determining if the print job has expired according to the expiration data, and, if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory;
wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer; ~~[[and]]~~
wherein determining if the print job has expired includes identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data; and
wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

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21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the memory is a printer memory and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the printer memory following the malfunction; and
purging comprises purging the print job from the printer memory.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the memory is a queue and wherein:

obtaining expiration data comprises obtaining expiration data relating to a duration that the print job is to be held in the queue following the malfunction; and
purging comprise purging the print job from the queue.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for designating a print job as time sensitive, comprising:

receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document;
translating the instructions into a print job;
presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and
if so selected through the interface, designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job, the expiration data indicating a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed ~~following as measured from the~~ detection of the malfunction exceeds the duration included in the expiration data.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein the memory is a printer memory and the duration is a first duration and wherein presenting comprises presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive

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and for specifying expiration data relating to the first duration for holding the print job in the printer memory and a second duration for holding the print job in a queue prior to the print job being delivered from the queue to the printer memory.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for purging a print job, comprising:
identifying a printer malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents a print job stored in a memory from being delivered to or printed by a printer;
upon identifying the malfunction, determining if the stored print job has expired; and
if the print job has expired, purging the print job from the memory;
wherein determining if the print job has expired includes obtaining expiration data included with the print job, identifying a time elapsed following the detection of the malfunction as a malfunction duration, and determining the print job as expired if the ~~elapsed time~~ malfunction duration has exceeded a duration indicated by the obtained expiration data.
27. (Original) The method of claim 26 further comprises:
determining if the print job has been designated as time sensitive; and
purging the print job only if it has been designated as a time sensitive print job.
28. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the memory is a queue, and wherein purging the print job includes purging the print job from the queue.
29. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the memory is a printer memory, and wherein purging the expired print job includes purging the expired print job from the printer memory.
30. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising notifying a user that the print job has been purged.
31. (Currently Amended) A method for purging a print job, comprising:
designating the print job as a time sensitive print job;

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including expiration data in the print job, the expiration data indicating a duration of how long the print job is to be held once a malfunction is detected;

queuing the time sensitive print job;

detecting a first malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the time sensitive print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer;

identifying a first time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the first malfunction; and

purging the time sensitive print job from the queue if the identified first elapsed time exceeds the duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job and if the malfunction is not remedied within the duration.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 31, wherein the duration is a first duration and the expiration data further indicates a second duration, the method further comprising:

sending the time sensitive print job from the queue to a printer memory;

detecting a second malfunction that prevents the time sensitive print job in the printer memory from being printed;

identifying a second time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the first malfunction; and

purging the printer memory of the time sensitive print job from the printer memory if the second elapsed time exceeds the second duration indicated by the expiration data included with the print job.

33. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising notifying a user if the print job has been purged.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 31, further comprising associating expiration data with the time sensitive print job, and after detecting the malfunction using the expiration data to determine if the time sensitive print job has expired, and wherein purging comprises purging the time sensitive print job only if it has expired.

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35. (Currently Amended) A system for printing, comprising:

an application capable of instructing an electronic document to be printed; and
a driver capable of translating printing instructions from the application into a print job and of allowing a user to designate the print job as time sensitive and to specify and include expiration data with the print job;

wherein the expiration data indicates a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the malfunction exceeds the duration included in the expiration data.

36. (Currently Amended) A print server, comprising:

a queue for temporarily holding a print job; and
a queue manager capable of detecting a triggering event, determining, upon detection of a triggering event, if the print job held in the queue is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, determining if the print job has expired, and purging the print job from the queue if the time sensitive print job has expired;

wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer; ~~[[and]]~~

wherein the queue manager is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job; and

wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the queue once the malfunction is detected.

37-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) An image forming device, comprising:

a print engine capable of printing information on print media;

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a memory manager capable of storing a print job in a memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory; and

a recovery feature capable of detecting a triggering event, identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive and if a triggering event has been detected, determining if the print job has expired, and instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job has expired;

wherein the detected triggering event is a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being printed; ~~[[and]]~~

wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job; and

wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

41-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) An image forming device, comprising:

a memory for storing a print job;

a print engine capable of printing information on print media;

a memory manager capable of storing the print job in the memory, routing the print job from the memory to the print engine, and purging the print job from the memory; and

a recovery feature capable of identifying a printer malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being printed, identifying whether the print job held in the memory is time sensitive, and, if time sensitive, instructing the memory manager to purge the print job from the memory if the time sensitive print job expires before the malfunction is remedied, wherein the recovery feature is operable to determine if the print job has expired by identifying a time elapsed ~~following~~ as measured from the detection of the malfunction and determining if the identified elapsed time has exceeded a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job, wherein the expiration data indicate how long the print job is to be held in the memory once the malfunction is detected.

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44. (Currently Amended) A printer driver, comprising:

[[a-]]means for receiving instructions from an application to print an electronic document;

[[a-]]means for translating the instructions into a print job;

[[a-]]means for presenting a user interface having user accessible controls for designating the print job as time sensitive and for specifying expiration data; and

[[a-]]means for designating the print job as time sensitive and including expiration data with the print job if so selected through the interface;

wherein the expiration data indicates a duration as specified by a user for holding the print job in a memory following a detection of a malfunction that prevents, at least temporarily, the print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer, the time sensitive designation indicating that the print job is to be purged from the memory upon identifying that a time elapsed following as measured from the detection of the malfunction exceeds the duration included in the expiration data if the malfunction is not remedied within the duration.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for purging a print job, comprising:

[[a-]]means for storing the print job in memory;

[[a-]]means for identifying a printer malfunction that, at least temporarily, prevents the stored print job from being delivered to or printed by a printer;

[[a-]]means for identifying a time elapsed since the malfunction was identified;

[[a-]]means for comparing the identified elapsed time with a duration indicated by expiration data included with the print job to determine if the print job has expired; and

[[a-]]means for purging the print job, ~~if expired,~~ from memory if the print job has expired and the malfunction has not been remedied within the duration.